

# The China Mail.

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號七十月二十年五十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1885.

日二十月一十年酉乙

Price, \$2 PER MONTH.

## AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GORCH, Leadenhall Street, E. C. HARRIS & Co., 37, Wallbrook, E. C. SAMUEL DEACON & Co., 120 & 124, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—AMÉDÉE THÉVENET & Co., 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WILK, 21, Park Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—DEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & Co., Singapore. O. HERRING & Co., Manila.

CHINA.—MACAO, F. A. DE CRUZ, Rua da Quitua, Quilão & Co., Amoy. WILSON, NICHOL & Co., Fuzhou. FENNELL & Co., Shanghai. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama.

## Banks.

### HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$7,500,000  
RESERVE FUND, \$4,500,000  
RESERVE FOR CAPITALIZATION, \$5,000,000  
RESERVE FOR DIVIDENDS, \$7,500,000  
RESERVE FOR LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS, \$7,500,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS.  
Chairman.—Hon. F. D. SASOON.  
Deputy Chairman.—A. McIVER, Esq.  
C. D. BOTOLLEY, Esq.  
H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.  
M. GOSWAMI, Esq.  
H. HOPKINS, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.  
HONGKONG.—THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.  
SHANGHAI.—RIVER GAMSON, Esq.  
LONDON BANKERS.—London and Country Bank.

HONGKONG.  
INTEREST ALLOWED.  
On Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.  
For Fixed Deposits:—  
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.  
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "  
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.  
Credit granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Drafts granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.  
Hongkong, December 5, 1885. 2120

### THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, £2,000,000  
PAID-UP, £500,000

REGISTERED OFFICE,  
40, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES:  
In India, China, Japan and the Colonies.

THE Bank receives Money on Deposit, buys and sells Bills of Exchange, issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and transacts Banking and Agency Business generally on terms to be had on application.

CLAIMS ON THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION PURCHASED ON ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS.  
H. A. HERBERT,  
Manager,  
Hongkong Branch.  
Hongkong, July 4, 1885. 1128

## NOTICE.

### RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

- 1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.
- 2.—Sums less than \$1. or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.
- 3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.
- 4.—Interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.
- 5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.
- 6.—Correspondence as to the business of the Bank if marked "On Hongkong Savings' Bank Business" is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.
- 7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the  
HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,  
T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.  
Hongkong, May 7, 1885. 764

### NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to insure against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co.,  
Hongkong, January 1, 1883. 14

## Notices of Firms.

### NOTICE.

MR. CHARLES ALEXANDER TOMES is admitted a PARTNER in our Firm in Hongkong, China, and elsewhere from this date.

RUSSELL & Co.  
Hongkong, December 1, 1885. 2082

### NOTICE.

THE BUSINESS OF BROWN, JONES & Co. (Undertakers, 6 Queen's Road East), hitherto carried on by E. L. STAINFIELD, was taken over by me on the 1st November, and will continue to be conducted by me, under the same firm name. A PROPERTY and COMMISSION AGENCY has also been opened to be conducted under the name of STAINFIELD & Co.

H. L. STAINFIELD.  
Hongkong, November 9, 1885. 1937

### NOTICE.

THE BUSINESS known as 'THE MUTUAL HALL' has this Day been re-opened under the CHARGE of Mr. ADOLPH SCHROEDER.

EMIL NIEDHARDT,  
Proprietor.  
Hongkong, December 14, 1885. 2181

## Intimations.

### JAPAN! JAPAN! JAPAN!!!

### KUHN & Co.'s JAPANESE FINE ART GALLERY.

At the HONGKONG HOTEL, &c.  
Have in their extensive Collection a great number of suitable, ELEGANT, USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

SATIN and SILK EMBROIDERIES, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Gowns, JACKETS, SWEATERS, WAIST-DRAPERIES, OLD BROSCHES, GENUINE SATSUMA, IVORY, BONE, PORCELAIN, BRONZE, JEWELRY, BOWLS, COIN and SILVER PLATE JEWELRY, &c., &c., &c.

All to be sold at most reasonable Prices.  
(A VISIT IS RESPECTFULLY INVITED.)  
Hongkong, December 16, 1885. 2192

### NOTICE.

### VICTORIA REGATTA.

THE COMMITTEE of the VICTORIA REGATTA CLUB request the pleasure of the COMPANY of the LADIES of HONGKONG at the REGATTA to be held on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, the 18th and 19th Instant.

SUBSCRIBERS to the REGATTA can obtain Tickets of Admission to the Flagship, on board of which TIPPIN will be SUPPLIED, by applying to C. S. ADAMS, Esq., Hon. Treasurer.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,  
Hon. Secretary.  
Victoria Regatta Club,  
Hongkong, December 7, 1885. 2127

### REGATTA HOLIDAYS.

THE Undersigned BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business, at Noon, on FRIDAY and SATURDAY NEXT, the 18th and 19th Instant.

For the 'Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China.'  
JOHN THURBURN,  
Manager, Hongkong.

For the 'Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.'  
T. H. WHITEHEAD,  
Acting Manager, Hongkong.

For the 'Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.'  
T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.

For the 'Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris.'  
INCHBALD,  
Agent.

For the New 'Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited.'  
H. A. HERBERT,  
Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, December 14, 1885. 2174

### GANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

### NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

IN Accordance with Section 120 of the Articles of Association, the General Agents, with approval of the Consulting Committee, will on the 1st JANUARY, 1886, issue INTEREST WARRANTS of \$5 per Share, Payable at the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANK, the same being at the Rate of 10 per cent. per annum, on the Paid-up Capital of the Office for the year 1885, and Notice is hereby given that in order that the same may be adjusted, the Transfer BOOKS of the Office will be CLOSED from the 18th to 31st Instant, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,  
General Agents,  
GANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.  
Hongkong, December 15, 1885. 2183

### HONGKONG RACES, 1885.

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY,  
24th, 25th, and 26th February, 1886.

### THE HONGKONG DERBY.

THE HONGKONG DERBY, a SWEEPSTAKES of \$20 each, half forfeit if declared on or before the date of Closing Entries, with \$100 added for 1st Pony and \$50 for 2nd. For all China Ponies bred & sold in Hongkong, to be run on SATURDAY, 23rd January, 1886. First Pony, 10 per cent.; Second Pony, 20 per cent.; Third Pony, 10 per cent. Weight 10st. 10lb. One-mile-and-a-half. Nominations close on SATURDAY, 19th December, 1885, addressed to the Clerk of the Course, at the Hongkong Club.

By Order,  
H. J. H. TRIPP,  
Clerk of the Course.  
Hongkong, November 13, 1885. 1974

## Business Notices.

### LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. Christmas Delicacies.

SOUPS.—Mulligatawny, Oxtail, Giblet, Plain Chowder, Soup and Bouilli, Hutch Potage, &c., &c.

FISH.—Sardines in Oil, Clitron, Tomatoes, and Butter, Sardines sans Arêtes, Whitebait, Trout, Anchovies, Tunny Fish, Oysters, Tamarind, Macassar Red Fish, Herring and Mackerel au Vin Blanc, Pilchard, Salmon Caviar, Salmon Kippers, &c., &c.

PATENT PRESERVED LAX.  
GAME AND PATIES.—Galauntine of Game, Boar's Head, Tassanip Rabbits, Wild Duck, Foie Gras, Paie de Foie Gras, assorted Game and English Patties.

TONGUES.—Smoked, Collared, Breakfast, Picnic, Lunch, Spiced, Paysandu, and Pigs.

SUNDRIES.—Apple Sauce, Brawn, Essences, Pig's Feet, Sage and Onion Stuffing, Tripe, Potted Meats, Canned Peas, Currants, Raisins, Spices, Minced Collops, Curries and Chutnies, French and English Vegetables, Black Leicestershire, Mushrooms, assorted Pickles, Tabasco Sauce, &c., &c.

DESSERT FRUITS.—Fruits in Syrup, Noisau and Brandy; Crystallized, Peaches de Montreuil, French Plums, Jordan Almonds, Stuffed Olives, Orange, Lemon and Vanilla Creams, Guiting's Dessert Fruits.

NEW SEASON'S MUSCATELS and SMYRNA FIGS.

ELVAS PLUMS.

NUTS.—Almonds in Shell, Brazil, Barcelona and Filbert.

### PLUM PUDDINGS and MINCEMEAT.

HUNTLEY & PALMER'S  
CHRISTMAS CAKES.

FINEST SELECTED YORK HAMS

### CHEESE.—

GORGONZOLA, GLOSTER, ALBERT, AMERICAN and STILTON.

HUNTLEY & PALMER'S 'CHRISTMAS' AND ASSORTED BISCUITS.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH CONFECTIONERY!

### NEWEST COSAQUES AND BONBONS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, December 11, 1885. 2184

### W. POWELL & Co.

ARE NOW SHOWING  
A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF  
TOYS.

Also, a large Variety of  
Fancy Goods,  
SUITABLE FOR  
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

W. POWELL & Co.  
VICTORIA EXCHANGE, December 12, 1885. 2185

### G. FALCONER & Co.

WATCHMAKERS, JEWELLERS, &c.,  
48, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

HAVE NOW on VIEW, the following CHOICE and SPECIAL SELECTION

### OF CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR GIFTS,

Received ex P. & O. S. S. Mirzapora.

GEM BRACELETS.  
GEM FICHI BROOCHES.  
GEM LOCKETS.  
GEM BARRINGS.  
GEM RINGS.  
GEM SCARF RINGS.

GEM BROOCHES or HAIR PINS.  
GENTLEMEN'S WATCHES.  
GENTLEMEN'S ALBERTS.

LADIES' WATCHES.  
LADIES' ALBERTS.

Also,  
DIAMOND RINGS.  
DIAMOND BROOCHES.  
DIAMOND EARRINGS.

A MOST HANDSOME COLLECTION OF  
SILVER CUPS,  
suitable for  
RACES or ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The whole of Last Season's Stock is now offered at COST PRICE.  
Hongkong, December 5, 1885. 2123

### KELLY & WALSH, LD.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED FRESH SUPPLIES OF TOBACCO AND CIGARETTES.

COPE'S GOLDEN CLOUD TOBACCO.  
Cope's STRAIGHT CUT TOBACCO.  
WILLIAMS' BRISTOL BIRD'S EYE.  
WILLIAMS' THREE CASTLES.  
WILLIAMS' FINE SEASON'S TOBACCO.  
MORRIS' GOLD LEAF HONEY DEW.  
MILLS' RICHMOND GEM TOBACCO.  
OLD JUDON TOBACCO.  
MILD OLD JUDON TOBACCO.  
SWEET CAPORAL TOBACCO.

Sole Proprietors of the following favorite TOBACCOES:  
'HAPPY THOUGHT,' 'DOLLAR BRAND,' 'STAR MIXTURE,' and 'GOLDEN EAGLE.'  
Also just received, a splendid Assortment of MICHIGAN and BRASS ROOT PIPES, CHINA and CIGARETTES, HONGKONG, CHINA and CIGARETTES, CIGARS, TOBACCO, POCCHERS, MATCH CASES, and all kinds of SMOKE-RELEASING GOODS.

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED, HONGKONG.  
Hongkong, December 8, 1885. 2184

## Business Notices.

### Victoria Hotel, Praya and Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

THIS Extensive and well-appointed Establishment, situated in one of the most central and airy positions in the Colony and commanding a splendid view of almost the entire harbour and within five minutes' walk of the principal Government Offices (including the Post Office), Banks, &c., has recently been much enlarged and improved and is now one of the principal Hotels in the place. The ROOMS are spacious, well ventilated and have just been refurnished in a most comfortable and handsome manner, suited to the requirements of the Far East. The Accommodation and Service of every kind will be found to be of the best description. An ample and varied TABLE D'HOTE is always provided and served in the spacious, large DINING HALL.

The HOTEL also contains handsome and comfortable Reception, READING, BILLIARD and SMOKING ROOMS.

The HOTEL is unsurpassed for comfort, convenience and quick service. Continental languages are spoken.

Messrs. DORABJEE & HING KEE,  
Proprietors.

Hongkong, September 16, 1885. 1612

### MISSISS GATE AND FAIRALL

HAVE JUST RECEIVED by the ENGLISH MAIL  
A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF  
BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

WINTER MANTLES, ULSTERS and Ulsters CLOTH.

CHILDREN'S Ready-made DRESSES.

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S SHOES, of every description.

MILLINERY, Trimmed and Untrimmed.

Most Handsome Laced FLOUNCINGS of the most beautiful design.

LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S KID GLOVES.

HOUSE and TABLE LINEN.

FURS and every description of GOODS suitable for this season.

GATE AND FAIRALL.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Hongkong, December 4, 1885. 2108

### ROBERT LANG & Co.,

QUEEN'S ROAD (OPPOSITE HONGKONG HOTEL).

Scotch Tweed Suits, \$15.00.  
Over 100 patterns of Stylish Tweeds of Exceptionally Good value to select from.

While advertising our 'Specialties' we also wish to draw the attention of our Customers to our now complete Stock of TWEED SUITINGS, COATINGS, TROUSERS, SERGES, FLANNELS, &c. A large and choice selection of the newest FABRICS of English, Scotch and Continental Manufacture, from medium to the very finest qualities.

Hongkong, October 1, 1885. 1771

## Shipping.

### Steamers.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.  
FOR SHANGHAI VIA AMOY.  
(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates for NINGPO, CHEFOO, NEW-CHANG, TIENSIEN, HANKOW and Ports on the YANGTZE.)

The Co.'s Steamship Agamemnon, Capt. WARDEN, will be despatched as above on FRIDAY, the 18th Instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, December 16, 1885. 2185

### DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW.  
The Co.'s Steamship Hailong, Captain WYLLIE, will be despatched for the above Port on FRIDAY, the 18th Instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARPAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, December 16, 1885. 2188

### FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

The Steamship Japan, Captain T. S. GARDNER, will be despatched for the above Ports on SATURDAY, the 19th Instant, at 3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 11, 1885. 2168

### FOR HOIHOW, PAKHOI AND HAIPHONG.

The Steamship Melita, Capt. H. MONROE, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 19th Instant, at 5 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to AH YON & Co., Agents.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
Hongkong, December 13, 1885. 2191

### OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.  
The Co.'s Steamship Antenor, Captain BRACE, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 19th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, December 12, 1885. 2184

## Shipping.

### Steamers.

THE CHINA SHIPPERS MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI.

The Co.'s Steamship China, Capt. R. H. MACDONALD, Master, will be despatched as above on or about the 19th Instant, will have immediate despatch for the above Port.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ARNOLD, KAREBERG & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 16, 1885. 2184

### GIBB LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR PORT DARWIN, AND THENCE DIRECT TO SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

The Steamship Afloat, Captain ROY, will be despatched as above at Daylight on TUESDAY NEXT, the 22nd Instant.

Through Cargo taken for all AUSTRALIAN PORTS, TASMANIA and NEW ZEALAND.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Managers.

Hongkong, December 16, 1885. 2193

### FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

The Steamship Anyer Head, Master, will be despatched for the above Ports on THURSDAY, the 24th Instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 14, 1885. 2178

### UNION LINE.

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.  
The Steamship Claymore, Captain GULLAN, will be despatched for the above Port on SATURDAY, the 26th Instant, at 3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, December 9, 1885. 2146

### AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, AND TRIESTE.

(Taking Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA, PERSIAN GULF, BLACK SEA, LEVANT and ADELPHI PORTS.)

The Co.'s Steamship Thania, Captain G. MARCOVIC, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 30th Instant, at Noon.

For further Particulars, regarding Freight and Passage, apply to the AGENT of the Company, Praya Central.

O. BAHRACH,  
Agent.  
Hongkong, December 16, 1885. 2187

### CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, &c.

The Steamship Woorung, Captain ARTHUR, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 30th Instant, at 4 p.m.

This Vessel has unusually good Cabin Accommodation, situated amidships, upon the upper deck.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, December 16, 1885. 2188

### Sailing Vessels.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

The 3/4 L. 1.1. American Ship Palmyra, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, October 24, 1885. 1868

### FOR NEW YORK.

The Fast and Favorite American Clipper Ship South American, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.







If the French Government could, as M. Dupuis seems to do, see their way to retain Tonquin without a large and expensive garrison, propositions for the evacuation of the country would find little favour in the House of Representatives. Probably M. Dupuis' opinion will be freely expressed on his arrival in Paris, and should carry great weight.

### SUPREME COURT.

#### IN ADMIRALTY.

(Before Sir G. Phillips, Chief Justice, assisted by Commanders Denny, K. & Victor, Esquires, and Lieut. Commander Farrington, R.N., as Naval Assessors.)

Thursday, December 17.

**M'URDOCH, GOW & CO. v. S. S. CAMORTA.**—**\$1,000,000.**  
**NETHERLANDS INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION CO. v. S. S. GLENFRUIT.**—**\$70,000.**  
SITTA 24 AND 25.

The hearing of these suits was continued to-day.

The Attorney General (the Hon. E. L. O'Malley), and Mr. A. J. Leach, instructed by Messrs Wotton and Deacon, appeared for the *Glenfruit*, and Messrs Sharp, Johnson and Stokes, representing the *Camorta*, appeared for the *Camorta*.

The following further evidence was tendered on behalf of the *Glenfruit*.

Albert Louis Lemke said—I am an able seaman on board the steamer *Glenfruit*, and have been so ever since 1879. I remember the 17th Oct. last; I was on board my ship lying at the west end of the harbour. I saw the *Camorta* alongside the wharf the first thing in the morning, and I saw her leave the wharf at about 10 o'clock.

She was lying on the wharf, and I saw her leave the wharf at about 10 o'clock. She was lying on the wharf, and I saw her leave the wharf at about 10 o'clock.

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engines had been going at half speed for some time, and I saw the *Camorta* coming from the north.

When the *Camorta* came from the north, I saw her coming from the north, and I saw her coming from the north.

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### Police Intelligence.

(Before H. E. Wodhouse, Esq.)

Thursday, December 17.

RETURNING FROM BANISHMENT.

Wong Ah-ah, an old offender, was charged, with returning from banishment on the 10th inst.

Wong Kam, P.O. 204, deposed that he arrested the prisoner at 4 p.m. on the 16th inst., in Queen's Road West. He had been banished on the 14th July last on the warrant of the court.

Inspector Stanton stated that when prisoner was brought to the station he said he had come over by the Sai Hing passage boat, and that he had only come to get some clothes in the hotel near the Man On Insurance office.

Defendant said he came by a passage boat to Kowloon, where he met the informant who went and got a constable, who arrested him at the station near the Man On Insurance office.

His brothers were there to see if he got some clothing. He came across afterwards in a one-man boat.

The case was remanded till Saturday next.

LARCENY.

Lon Ah-shan, hawker, of Tungking, was sentenced to one month's hard labour for stealing three finger rings and a ten cent piece, the property of a Japanese woman named Tan A-shan, in Wellington Street, on the 16th inst.

(Before A. G. Wise, Esq.)

LARCENY.

William Beckett, seaman unemployed, was convicted of stealing a coat, value \$2, the property of George Washington, a seaman living at Brown's boarding house, on the 16th inst. He was sentenced to four weeks' hard labour.

PUBLIC GAMBLING.

Ng Ah-chung and three others, coolies, were charged with public gambling at No. 13 Ship Street, on the 16th inst.

Inspector Mackie, with a party of police, paid a visit to the first floor of 13 Ship Street, on a warrant at 7.30 p.m. yesterday. The house was fitted up as a gambling place and boxes of dominoes, cards, counters, counting sticks, dice, &c., were found.

The defendants, who were in the room, were not at the time engaged in gambling.

Chang Fat, P.O. 170, gave evidence to the effect that he knew the first defendant, who used to be a constable, and that he had seen him gambling there on several occasions.

Some further evidence was given by an informant who had been to the house to gamble and who had seen first defendant managing the game, potting, and second defendant looking on.

First defendant was fined \$30, or one month's hard labour. The others were ordered to find two sureties of \$10 each to be of good behaviour for these months; in default to be committed for three weeks.

A BRITISH VERSUS THE MEXICAN DOLLAR.

The Singapore Free Press recently discusses the question of the substitution of a British for a Mexican dollar as follows:—

Continuing our plea for a British dollar, we now propose to examine the history of the Hongkong dollar and trace the cause of its collapse.

On the 7th May, 1866, the Hongkong Government opened a mint for the coinage of British dollars, and on the 26th of April, 1868, the mint was closed, the experiment having proved a dead failure, a source of serious loss to the local Government, and we may add, a notable warning for future guidance.

The new dollar was created with the avowed intention of driving the objectionable Mexican from circulation, but, purely through lack of technical knowledge on the part of the designers of the Hongkong dollar, the Mexican triumphed over the new dollar, and still reigns triumphant.

The explanation of the failure is simple, and its cause, though sufficiently drastic to upset the whole scheme, could easily have been remedied, had the Hongkong authorities had the sense to see that the new coin would weigh 416 grains Troy, 900 fine—374.4 grains of pure silver, or about one per mille more than the average Mexican. They were prepared on receiving silver to return it in the shape of Hongkong dollars, one dollar being made up of every 374.4 grains of pure silver, and on all money coming they levied a seigniorage of 2½ per cent to pay mint expenses.

A little silver came in at first, and the dollars were issued. They were excellent coins; the Chinese of the island readily accepted them on a par with Mexican dollars, and the two coins circulated together at equal value. But soon it became evident that something was wrong, for silver ceased to be offered at the mint, the expenses of which were meanwhile running on, causing heavy loss to the Government. An effort to remedy the difficulty was made by reducing the seigniorage to 1 per cent, but silver still failing to come in for coinage, the attempt was given up, and the mint was closed after barely two years' trial. The point we have to consider, therefore, is this—Why did the silver fail to come in for coinage?

In the answer to this question, the explanation of the whole matter.

Not although anybody could take silver to the Hongkong mint, or import Mexican dollars from abroad, yet, as a matter of course, the supply of new coin was nearly always procured by the Banks, and distributed to the general public.

The Banks naturally took their profit in the cheapest market, and when the Hongkong dollar offered itself as a rival to the Mexican they found by calculation that paying 374.4 grains of fine silver plus 2 per cent seigniorage for one Hongkong dollar was almost invariably more costly operation than buying Mexican dollars in the London bullion market, and bringing them out to China.

The public in Hongkong recognized this, and no difference in value between the two circulating coins was as the new gold dollar proved the more costly; it naturally had to fight a losing battle. In fact, the metal silver dollar was made of putting two much fine silver into the new dollar.

With 374.4 grains of pure silver, the Hongkong dollar could not compete with the Mexican, with 370 grains only, it could have swept in victory from the field.

To illustrate the matter from the point of view, we append a table of the relative cost of the two coins.

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